Safety of tourists visiting J&K

†222. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in terrorist incidents and the number of tourists has increased in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the visit of Kashmir is safe for the tourists; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for the safety of the tourists and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of terrorist incidents and the the number of tourists visiting during the last three years are given below:

Year		Terrorist incidents		Tourists visiting	
		Valley	Ladakh	Shri Amarnath Ji Cave	Mata Vaishno Devi
2002	4038	27356	8033	110793	4432178
2003	3401	189376	28393	153339	5400296
2004	2565	394962	35091	319708	6109895

(c) and (d) The State Government has taken various security measures for the tourists visiting the State which, *inter-alia*, include:

(i) There is a separate tourist police enforcement wing at Srinagar/Jammu and other tourist places, which look after the safety as well as other matters.

(ii) Adequate deployment of Security Forces/State Police is being ensured around the tourist spots and also roads leading to such places.

(iii) Regular patrolling by police and anti-sabotage checks are being undertaken in and around tourist places and roads leading there.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iv) A separate security arrangement is operational on a permanent basis at the Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi at Katra and in the proximate areas.

Union Government provides necessary support to the State Government on the basis of their requests and continuously monitors the security situation.

Infiltration from Bangladesh

223. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is spurt in infiltration from across Bangladesh Border;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Government are facing problem in dealing with the menace;

(c) if so, whether Government have any plan to check the infiltration; and

(d) the expected number of infiltration in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No sir. However, the illegal infiltration from across the Bangladesh border has been a source of concern to India. The Government is well aware of the problem and adopted all measures to check the infiltration. The number of persons apprehended while attempting to enter India has been reduced in last two years. The BSF troops have been deployed all along the International border.

(c) and (d) The several measures have also been taken in this regard which are given below. However, it is difficult to assess the number of infiltration of Bangladesh nationals in the country.

(i) During meetings/conferences, at different levels with Government of Bangladesh/BDR, the Indian side emphasize the sharing of actionable information and extend mutual cooperation;

(ii) Close coordination with other agencies including State Governments agencies;

(iii) Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling;